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Yellow fever at Natchez, Miss.

[Telegram.]

NATCHEZ, MISS., November 9, 1900.

At a conference of nearly all the physicians of the city and Dr. Gant last night, it was decided that 12 cases of yellow fever with 7 deaths had occurred since about the middle of October. * * * Five known cases to-day, 2 new yesterday. * * * Local authorities say they will isolate and guard cases and suspects and make post-epidemic disinfection. Local conditions favor the control of the disease. Temperature here this morning 37°F., bright and clear. * * *

WERTENBAKER.

[Telegram.]

NATCHEZ, MISS., November 10, 1900.

* * * No new cases, no deaths; frost last night.

BALLARD.

Illness among Chinese recently returned from salmon canneries of Alaska.

ANGEL ISLAND, CAL., November 1, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith report of certain cases of illness found among the Chinese recently returned to this port from the salmon canneries of Alaska.

Respectfully,

L. L. LUMSDEN,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

ANGEL ISLAND, CAL., October 30, 1900.

A number of vessels recently returned to San Francisco from the salmon canneries of Alaska have arrived with a history of several deaths having occurred among the Chinese cannerymen aboard during the homeward bound voyage. There were no physicians on these vessels, and as a rule no satisfactory history of the nature of the illnesses resulting in these deaths was obtainable from responsible persons—the masters stating that they would not know of any sickness among the Chinese until the deaths were reported. As the bodies had been buried at sea, quarantinable disease could not be excluded, and the vessels and personnel were therefore subjected to sanitary treatment at the quarantine station.

The vessels engaged in the salmon canning industry in Alaska sail from San Francisco in the months of March and April, each vessel taking about 125 Chinese to work at the canneries. Last spring nearly 3,000 Chinese were taken from San Francisco for this work. Bubonic plague was known to exist in their section of the city at the time of their leaving, and no precautionary measures to prevent an outbreak among them were taken.

Bearing these facts in mind, examination of the glandular regions of the personnel of all these vessels having a doubtful sanitary history was made at quarantine, but with negative results in every case. In making this examination, however, it was observed that many of the Chinese—as many as 5 per cent—had an oedema of the lower extremities, accompanied by general weakness, the more marked cases being unable to stand without assistance. These cases presented such a remarkable similarity of symptoms that the following description, with slight modifications for differences of degree, not of kind, could be